



Green River's Instructional Plan 2008 Revision

Executive Summary

Green River Community College's instruction and student services plan guides existing and future college plans, ensuring that the institution moves organically toward a single goal – student success. This plan is frequently updated as the college's goals and implementation plans evolve to respond to the needs of the community.

The State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC), the college's Workforce Education Council, and the college's Adult Basic Education (ABE) and English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) programs have identified several key trends, including the replacement of resource-based industries with knowledge-based industries, the need to serve non-traditional students, and an increasingly diverse service area. These trends require an increasing emphasis on integration and collaboration among departments and programs.

The input of faculty of staff has been integral to the development of the plan; and their philosophical priorities – focusing on lifelong learning -- underlie the College's strategic directions and goals.

These strategic directions and goals, specifically, are:

Strategic Direction #1: Strengthen the College's educational offerings, including interdisciplinary programs and distance education to meet the needs of our community.

- Goal #1:* Expand the number of learning communities offered.
- Goal #2:* Increase the number of online courses.
- Goal #3:* Expand offerings at the Kent campus.
- Goal #4:* Infuse multicultural elements into courses across disciplines.
- Goal #5:* Implement curricula innovations in the ESOL program to assist the transition of ESOL students into the professional technical and transfer areas.
- Goal #6:* Develop more opportunities for collaboration between ABE/ESOL and professional technical programs (I-BEST)
- Goal #7:* Update and develop new professional technical programs to meet the changing needs of industry.
- Goal #8:* Expand Project TEACH and teacher preparation programs.
- Goal #9:* Provide additional partnership opportunities with high schools and their students.
- Goal #10:* Expand opportunities for High School Completion



Strategic Direction #2: Improve student preparedness and academic success.

- Goal #1:* Implement a recruitment and retention plan.
- Goal #2:* Implement early warning system for all students.
- Goal #3:* Offer additional learning alternatives such as supplemental instruction and tutoring to improve student success.
- Goal #4:* Find additional funding opportunities for low income students to attend college.
- Goal #5:* Explore the possibility of creating life skill courses and incorporating them into the curriculum.
- Goal #6:* Provide better orientation to college and increased opportunities for students to improve college skills.

Strategic Direction #3: Maintain and enhance the College's instructional classrooms and facilities, and administrative facilities and grounds.

Projects with State and Local Funding Secured

- Funded Goal #1:* Complete the renovation of the Physical Education Building.
- Funded Goal #2:* Complete the new classroom and office building to replace the aging BI/SS/HS complex.
- Funded Goal #3:* Complete the replacement of the Trades classrooms.
- Funded Goal #4:* Increase the size of the Kent Campus to meet the growing needs of the college and the community.

2009 – 2011 Capital Request Priorities

- Capital Request Goal #1:* Renovate SMT building to better serve the programs housed there.
- Capital Request Goal #2:* Replace the aging Lindbloom Student Center.

Projects Requiring Funding

- Unfunded Goal #1:* Secure funding to support the following necessary capital needs: expanded space for the Tutoring/Help Center; dedicated space for Faculty House; space for the Fine Arts dance program; and a Career Center.
- Unfunded Goal #2:* Secure funding for additional faculty office space and increased faculty/staff parking.
- Unfunded Goal #3:* Secure funding for the expansion and replacement of Physical Education facilities.



Strategic Direction #4: Enhance students' educational experience through the development of comprehensive student support services.

- Goal #1:* Re-evaluate the current advising model.
- Goal #2:* Improve persistence rates.
- Goal #3:* Strengthen and enhance student services at off campus sites.
- Goal #4:* Increase opportunities for students to earn credit for prior educational and/or work experience.
- Goal #5:* Promote and support the value of diversity.
- Goal #6:* Evaluate Code of Conduct Process.
- Goal #7:* Develop Incident Response teams.
- Goal #8:* Communicate and collaborate on services college-wide.
- Goal #9:* Conduct regular evaluation of programs and services.

Within each strategic direction and goal, the College has identified relevant background information and specific implementation strategies. These strategies will be assessed for effectiveness and revised as needed as part of Green River's ongoing efforts to serve its dynamic student population.

Strategic Direction #3: "*Maintain and enhance the College's instructional classrooms and facilities, and administrative facilities and ground*" reflects the various needs driven by Strategic Directions 1, 2, and 4. Background information and Implementation Strategies are outlined below.

Projects with State and Local Funding Secured

Funded Goal #1: Complete the renovation of the Physical Education Building.

Background: Physical Education (PE) has always been an important part of the college's educational offerings. Today, all academic degrees require fitness-related activities. Currently, physical education activities are spread across campus, often resulting in inefficient use of either staff or material resources. Most PE courses are taught in the gymnasium, scheduled for renovation beginning spring 2008. The renovation will address deficiencies with issues such as ADA compliance, current building codes, air-handling systems, Title IX equity with respect to locker room size, and will bring the facility up-to-date to better accommodate the growing needs of the department, and current athletic and recreational programs.

Implementation Strategies:

- A. Complete discussions concerning the use of the new space so that design represents and meets program needs.
- B. Develop plan in consultation with faculty and staff to support PE's instructional programs while renovations are underway.





Funded Goal #2: Complete the new classroom and office building to replace the aging BI/SS/HS complex.

Background: The HS complex (HSA, HSB, HSC, BI, SG and SS) was built in the late 60's and has exceeded its life cycle. This building has been in design during the 2007-09 biennium with construction following in 2009-11. The new classroom building will consolidate classroom and office locations to enhance the student experience, and will serve the Business, English, Fine Arts, Humanities, and Social Science Divisions with adequate classrooms and labs, offices and support spaces. This configuration allows the college to better meet the needs of its students.

Implementation Strategy:

- A. Active involvement by Business, English, Fine Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences divisions with the final design/construction of this new building.

Funded Goal #3: Complete the replacement of the Trades classrooms.

Background: Predesign for the new Trades Complex will take place during the 2007-08 academic year. Design is scheduled for 2009-2011 followed by construction in 2011-2013. This will replace the outdated and inadequate space for the Trades programs including automotive, auto body, welding, manufacturing technology, and carpentry.

Implementation Strategy:

- A. Actively involve Trades Division with the pre-design/design/construction of this new complex.

Funded Goal #4: Increase the size of the Kent Campus to meet the growing needs of the college and the community.

Background: The establishment of the Kent Campus allowed the college to increase its instructional offerings to better serve the students and their needs. Kent Campus currently offers a full slate of core academic transfer courses, and ABE, GED, and ESOL programs.

Phase II will bring additional programs and courses that culminate in the direct transfer Associate of Science degrees in Engineering and Computer Science, and pilot training, flight dispatch, and related aviation courses – programs that all lead to high demand, high wage careers. Business transfer programs, teacher preparation courses, health science programs, high school completion courses, and courses that complement the adjacent Regional Justice Center will be added as well. It is imperative that the college design this facility to support these programs as well as a multi-purpose science lab.

The self support activities of the Kent Campus have been redirected to a business and professional development focus and offer Business Management programs, professional



CEU attainment, and contract training which provides local companies with updated employee training and management tools for today's changing work environments.

Construction of an additional 40,000 square feet in Kent Campus Phase II will begin in 2008 with completion in summer 2009.

Implementation Strategy:

- A. Active involvement by program faculty intending to offer classes in Kent with the design/construction of this new building.

2009 – 2011 Capital Request Priorities

Capital Request Goal #1: Renovate SMT building to better serve the programs housed there.

Background: The Green River Community College Science Math Technology (SMT) Building currently houses classrooms, labs, and faculty offices supporting Mathematics, Engineering, Design Technology, Natural Resources, and Early Childhood Education programs. The Math Learning Center, numerous Workforce Training Program offices, and the Facilities Department are also located in SMT.

The SMT Building has had no major program reconsolidation and/or substantive remodel since the original construction. After thirty plus years of personnel relocations and academic program changes, the result is best described as a DOS operating system that has not been "reconfigured" and/or "defragmented." The current building is replete with inefficient building circulation; inter-program functions scattered throughout the building and on disparate floors, redundant work spaces; technology deficient academic support spaces; and classrooms ill-sized for meeting current instruction standards.

Implementation Strategies:

- A. Submit a capital project proposal to renovate the SMT Building.
- B. Develop a strategic plan to work with faculty, students, and staff to create a plan for the renovated SMT building.

Capital Request Goal #2: Replace the aging Lindbloom Student Center.

Background: The Green River Community College Lindbloom Student Center (LSC) was built thirty-six years ago (1971) with an addition constructed in 1990 to meet the needs of a growing student population. The LSC houses the Student Services Division, Instructional Programs in the Fine Arts Division (Print and Broadcast Journalism), and Student Life programs. Student Services Division programs include Education and Career Planning, Enrollment Services, Student Success Programs, Student Health Services, and Disability Support Services. Almost twenty years after the 1990 addition,



the facility has exceeded its life cycle, is in disrepair, and no longer supports programming.

A capital request is needed for the design and construction of a student services facility. In May 2007, the student body approved by a 76% margin a new student fee to finance a new student life facility, a campus mandate that the LSC be replaced. The new student fee provides the necessary down payment and debt service for a Certificate of Participation (COP). The student life and student services facilities would be constructed concurrently.

Implementation Strategies:

- A. Pursue a Certificate of Participation (COP) to support the construction of a student life facility.
- B. Submit a capital project request to construct a facility that will house core student services.
- C. Develop a strategic plan to work with students, staff, and faculty to create a plan for the new LSC facility.

Projects Requiring Funding

Unfunded Goal #1: Secure funding to support the following necessary capital needs: expanded space for the Tutoring/Help Center; dedicated space for Faculty House; space for the Fine Arts dance program; and a Career Center.

Background:

Dedicated space for supplemental instruction/tutoring services: A majority (83%) of the college's in-coming first-year freshmen test below college level in reading, writing and mathematics. In addition to inadequate space to serve these students, students who do utilize academic support services lack privacy and are often sharing space. Alternately, the Help Center is housed in the library and there are not enough seats available to serve current needs of the students.

Dedicated space for faculty meeting space: As college services have been shuffled between buildings to accommodate growth, the dedicated space for a Faculty House was eliminated several years ago. Faculty currently has to schedule space within the student center but are often moved or bumped at the last minute due to competing priorities. It is imperative that faculty have dedicated space where they can meet on a regular basis to share teaching ideas and hold cross-disciplinary discussions.

Dedicated space for Career Center: A few years ago, the dedicated space for the Career Center was eliminated to accommodate growth in student services. It has become a priority for the college to find dedicated space for students and community members



where each can receive guidance in formulating career plans or accessing resource material on career options.

Dedicated space for the Fine Arts Dance Program

Dance classes are currently being offered in a portion of the gym that is separated by a bleacher wall. The wall lacks sound insulation and noise from sports programs using the court floor creates a significant negative impact on the dance classes. With constant scheduling conflicts, the two programs are incompatible. A dedicated space is needed for dance that includes the appropriate flooring and sound systems.

Dedicated space for Disability Support Services

The amount of space for DSS was downsized in 2006, and since then the numbers of DSS students and frequency of DSS student use of office and lab has increased significantly. Dedicated and additional expanded space is needed for Disability Support Services (DSS). DSS and TRIO share a small lab with 3 computers. The lab is used for private testing, assistive technology training, de-escalation for students with psychiatric issues, tutoring, and computer access for TRIO and DSS students. DSS actively serves over 500 students per year, and are required by law to provide testing accommodations and assistive technology training to their students. The hallway into DSS is often not accessible for wheelchair users since this area also serves as a waiting area.

Implementation Strategy:

- A. Work with Facilities Master Plan staff to seek funding sources to support the addition of dedicated spaces for programs described above.

Unfunded Goal #2: Secure funding for additional faculty office space and increased faculty/staff parking.

Background: Lack of faculty offices is a problem for the college. The large majority of part-time faculty does not have their own office or access to office space where they can meet with students in private and/or prepare for classes. Although there may be additional faculty offices in new buildings, we also add new full-time faculty each year. Thus, added offices are often taken by the time the new buildings are occupied.

Our shortage of parking further limits students' access to both faculty and administrative services. The Park and Shuttle at Pacific Raceway, 2.6 miles from campus, has eased, although not solved, our parking challenges. Shuttle vans make continuous trips Monday through Friday between 7:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Implementation Strategy:

- A. Work with Facilities Master Plan staff to seek funding sources to support the addition of dedicated spaces for programs described above.

Unfunded Goal 3: Secure funding for the expansion and replacement of Physical Education facilities.



Fitness related instruction takes place in the adjacent Fitness Center. There is a growing need to expand the current Fitness Center to meet the exercise and fitness needs of not only students but also college employees and the community. An expansion would include 2 classrooms, 2 changing rooms, an office and a storage area. This allows the existing facility to be used for fitness classes set to music, such as aerobic dance classes, yoga, and martial arts classes.

The PE program has been operating without outdoor play fields since the construction of the new Technology and Science buildings began. These buildings are now located where the outdoor play fields once were housed. Finding dedicated space for outdoor activities such as soccer, baseball and softball is a priority for the Physical Education program. This priority also includes re-engineering the college's Challenge Course, refurbishing the tennis courts, and adding additional courts.

Implementation Strategy:

- A. Work with Facilities Master Plan staff to seek grant opportunities and alternative funding sources to support the outdoor playing fields, tennis courts, and a re-engineered Challenge Course for PE programs.